diagnostic <u>scanning</u> system via a network, comprising the steps of:

selecting a training video via an input to said <u>medical</u> diagnostic <u>scanning</u> system; and

sending a training video request from said <u>medical</u> diagnostic <u>scanning</u> system to said central service facility via said network, said training video request comprising an identifier identifying said selected training video.

2. (Amended) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

retrieving video and audio data of said selected training video from a video library following receipt of said training video request at said central service facility; and

sending said video and audio data of said selected training video from said central service facility to said <u>medical</u> diagnostic <u>scanning</u> system via said network.

3. (Amended) The method as recited in claim 2, further comprising the step of displaying said video data and playing said audio data at said <u>medical</u> diagnostic <u>scanning</u> system.

4. (Amended) The method as recited in claim 2, further comprising the steps of:

in response to receipt of said training video request at said central service facility, verifying whether said <u>medical</u> diagnostic <u>scanning</u> system has a valid subscription; and

declining to retrieve video and audio data of said selected training video from a video library if said <u>medical</u> diagnostic <u>scanning</u> system does not have a valid subscription.

5. (Amended) A system comprising a central service facility connected to a multiplicity of remotely located <u>medical</u>

diagnostic <u>scanning</u> systems via a network, wherein each of said <u>medical</u> diagnostic <u>scanning</u> systems comprises a graphical user interface for selecting a training video and then sending a training video request from said <u>medical</u> diagnostic <u>scanning</u> system to said central service facility via said network, said training video request comprising an identifier identifying said selected training video.

6. (Amended) The system as recited in claim 5, wherein said central service facility comprises a video server which is programmed to perform the following steps:

retrieving video and audio data of said selected training video from a video database following receipt of said training video request; and

sending said video and audio data of said selected training video to said network addressed to said <u>medical</u> diagnostic <u>scanning</u> system.

8. (Amended) The system as recited in claim 6, wherein said <u>medical</u> diagnostic <u>scanning</u> system comprises a display screen, an audio speaker and a video/audio player for displaying said video data on said display screen and outputting said audio data to said audio speaker.

9. (Amended) The system as recited in claim 5, wherein said central service facility comprises:

a license server programmed to verify whether said <u>medical</u> diagnostic <u>scanning</u> system has a valid subscription in response to receipt of said training video request at said central service facility; and

an application server coupled to said license server and programmed to decline said training video request if said license server communicates that said <u>medical</u> diagnostic <u>scanning</u> system does not have a valid subscription.

19. (Amended) A system comprising a central service facility connected to a multiplicity of remotely located <u>medical</u> diagnostic <u>scanning</u> systems via a network, wherein each of said <u>medical</u> diagnostic <u>scanning</u> systems comprises:

means for selecting a training video;

means for formulating a request to view said training video, said training video request comprising an identifier identifying said selected training video; and

a communications module for sending said training video request from said <u>medical</u> diagnostic <u>scanning</u> system to said central service facility via said network.

20. (Amended) The system as recited in claim 19, wherein said central service facility comprises:

means for retrieving said requested training video from a video database; and

a communications module for sending said training video from said central service facility to said <u>medical</u> diagnostic <u>scanning</u> system via said network.

21. (Amended) The system as recited in claim 19, wherein said central service facility comprises:

means for retrieving video and audio data of said selected training video from a video database following receipt of said training video request; and

means for sending said video and audio data of said selected training video to said network addressed to said <u>medical</u> diagnostic <u>scanning</u> system.

22. (Amended) The system as recited in claim 20, wherein said central service facility further comprises:

means for verifying whether said <u>medical</u> diagnostic <u>scanning</u> system has a valid subscription in response to receipt of said training video request at said central service facility; and

means for declining said training video request if said license server communicates that said <u>medical</u> diagnostic <u>scanning</u> system does not have a valid subscription.

23. (Amended) A system comprising a video library accessible to a multiplicity of remotely located <u>medical</u> diagnostic <u>scanning</u> systems via a network, wherein each of said <u>medical</u> diagnostic <u>scanning</u> systems comprises:

means for selecting a training video;

means for formulating a request to view said training video, said training video request comprising an identifier identifying said selected training video; and

a communications module for sending said training video request from said <u>medical</u> diagnostic <u>scanning</u> system to said video library via said network.

24. (Amended) The system as recited in claim 23, wherein said video library comprises a video database and a video server which is programmed to perform the following steps:

retrieving video and audio data of said selected training video from said video database following receipt of said training video request; and

sending said video and audio data of said selected training video to said network addressed to said <u>medical</u> diagnostic <u>scanning</u> system.

Please add the following new claims:

25. The method as recited in claim 2, wherein said video library comprises training videos showing how to operate the scanning equipment, how to perform patient examinations or how to make diagnoses for each imaging modality.

26. The system as recited in claim 6, wherein said video database comprises training videos showing how to operate the scanning equipment, how to perform patient examinations or how to make diagnoses for each imaging modality.

27. The system as recited in claim 20, wherein said video database comprises training videos showing how to operate the scanning equipment, how to perform patient examinations or how to make diagnoses for each imaging modality.

28. The system as recited in claim 24, wherein said video database comprises training videos showing how to operate the scanning equipment, how to perform patient examinations or how to make diagnoses for each imaging modality.

IN THE DRAWINGS:

The Applicants propose to amend the drawings as shown in red ink on the annexed copies of Figures 3 and 4. New formal drawings incorporating these changes will be submitted upon approval of these proposed drawing amendments by the Examiner.

REMARKS

The drawings have been amended to correct the reference numeral discrepancies identified in ¶¶ 1-3 of the Office Action. Throughout the drawings, a boxed letter "F" represents a communications module, such as a Facsimile transmission module (see, e.g., page 13, lines 6-10 of the specification).

selecting a training video via an input to said medical diagnostic scanning system; and

sending a training video request from said medical diagnostic scanning system to said central service facility via said network, said training video request comprising an identifier identifying said selected training video.

2. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

retrieving video and audio data of said selected training video from a video library following receipt of said training video request at said central service facility; and

sending said video and audio data of said selected training video from said central service facility to said medical diagnostic scanning system via said network.

3. The method as recited in claim 2, further comprising the step of displaying said video data and playing said audio data at said medical diagnostic scanning system.

4. The method as recited in claim 2, further comprising the steps of:

in response to receipt of said training video request at said central service facility, verifying whether said medical diagnostic scanning system has a valid subscription; and

declining to retrieve video and audio data of said selected training video from a video library if said medical diagnostic scanning system does not have a valid subscription.

5. A system comprising a central service facility connected to a multiplicity of remotely located medical diagnostic scanning systems via a network, wherein each of said medical diagnostic scanning systems comprises a graphical user interface

for selecting a training video and then sending a training video request from said medical diagnostic scanning system to said central service facility via said network, said training video request comprising an identifier identifying said selected training video.

6. The system as recited in claim 5, wherein said central service facility comprises a video server which is programmed to perform the following steps:

retrieving video and audio data of said selected training video from a video database following receipt of said training video request; and

sending said video and audio data of said selected training video to said network addressed to said medical diagnostic scanning system.

7. The system as recited in claim 6, wherein said central service facility further comprises a memory for storing said video database, said video database memory being accessed by said video server to perform said retrieving step.

8. The system as recited in claim 6, wherein said medical diagnostic scanning system comprises a display screen, an audio speaker and a video/audio player for displaying said video data on said display screen and outputting said audio data to said audio speaker.

9. The system as recited in claim 5, wherein said central service facility comprises:

a license server programmed to verify whether said medical diagnostic scanning system has a valid subscription in response to receipt of said training video request at said central service facility; and

an application server coupled to said license server and programmed to decline said training video request if said license server communicates that said medical diagnostic scanning system does not have a valid subscription.

10. Canceled.

11. Canceled.

12. Canceled.

13. Canceled.

14. Canceled.

15. Canceled.

16. Canceled.

17. Canceled.

18. Canceled.

19. A system comprising a central service facility connected to a multiplicity of remotely located medical diagnostic scanning systems via a network, wherein each of said medical diagnostic scanning systems comprises:

means for selecting a training video;

means for formulating a request to view said training video, said training video request comprising an identifier identifying said selected training video; and

a communications module for sending said training video request from said medical diagnostic scanning system to said central service facility via said network.

20. The system as recited in claim 19, wherein said central service facility comprises:

means for retrieving said requested training video from a video database; and

a communications module for sending said training video from said central service facility to said medical diagnostic scanning system via said network.

21. The system as recited in claim 19, wherein said central service facility comprises:

means for retrieving video and audio data of said selected training video from a video database following receipt of said training video request; and

means for sending said video and audio data of said selected training video to said network addressed to said medical diagnostic scanning system.

22. The system as recited in claim 20, wherein said central service facility further comprises:

means for verifying whether said medical diagnostic scanning system has a valid subscription in response to receipt of said training video request at said central service facility; and

means for declining said training video request if said license server communicates that said medical diagnostic scanning system does not have a valid subscription.

23. A system comprising a video library accessible to a multiplicity of remotely located medical diagnostic scanning systems via a network, wherein each of said medical diagnostic scanning systems comprises:

means for selecting a training video;

means for formulating a request to view said training video, said training video request comprising an identifier

identifying said selected training video; and

a communications module for sending said training video request from said medical diagnostic scanning system to said video library via said network.

24. The system as recited in claim 23, wherein said video library comprises a video database and a video server which is programmed to perform the following steps:

retrieving video and audio data of said selected training video from said video database following receipt of said training video request; and

sending said video and audio data of said selected training video to said network addressed to said medical diagnostic scanning system.

25. The method as recited in claim 2, wherein said video library comprises training videos showing how to operate the scanning equipment, how to perform patient examinations or how to make diagnoses for each imaging modality.

26. The system as recited in claim 6, wherein said video database comprises training videos showing how to operate the scanning equipment, how to perform patient examinations or how to make diagnoses for each imaging modality.

27. The system as recited in claim 20, wherein said video database comprises training videos showing how to operate the scanning equipment, how to perform patient examinations or how to make diagnoses for each imaging modality.

In ¶ 5 of the Office Action, claims 12 and 14 stand rejected as being indefinite. The Applicants submit that this ground of rejection is now moot in view of the cancellation of claims 12 and 14.

In ¶ 7 of the Office Action, claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8, 12, 13, 16, 19-21, 23 and 24 stand rejected as being unpatentable over the Levy patent in view of the Ramshaw patent. As applied to canceled claims 12, 13 and 16, this ground of rejection is now moot. As applied to claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8, 19-21, 23 and 24, the Applicants traverse this ground of rejection for the following reasons.

Independent claims 1, 5, 19 and 23 have been amended to clarify that the invention is directed to a method and a system that allow the operator of a medical diagnostic scanning system to retrieve training videos for viewing from a central video library. This is an extremely helpful tool that enables a system operator to learn how to operate a scanning system to acquire images useful in medical diagnostics. A multiplicity of scanning systems can connect to a central video library via many different types of networks, including but not limited to a local area network, a wide area network and the Internet. The training video can be viewed on the display monitor of the scanning system being used, e.g., an ultrasound imaging system, an x-ray machine, or a computerized tomography scanner. In the disclosed embodiment, the video library comprises "training videos showing how to operate the scanning equipment, how to

perform patient examinations or how make diagnoses for each imaging modality." New claims directed to the latter feature have been added.

Neither the Levy patent nor the Ramshaw patent discloses the provision of software on medical diagnostic scanning systems for downloading training videos from a central database to the scanning system via a network.

The Levy patent discloses a video teleconferencing system wherein a host site communicates with remote sites via a network. The remote site assembly comprises a notebook computer, not a medical diagnostic scanning system. On the contrary, Levy expressly teaches that the remote system is placed "in proximity to the medical application that is to be the subject of the telecommunication session" [col. 7, lines 42-45].

The Ramshaw patent merely discloses a computer connected to a computer or a server via a network. The latter is programmed to provide education and training in medical procedures, e.g., a laparoscopic surgical procedure. Ramshaw says nothing about medical diagnostic scanning systems. In particular, Ramshaw neither discloses nor suggests downloading training videos from a central computer to a scanning system via a network.

Nor does the Sawa patent, cited in combination with Levy and Ramshaw in the rejection of claims 4, 9, 18 and 22, disclose anything about a medical diagnostic scanning system.

Since none of the applied references discloses a system for enabling the operator of a medical diagnostic scanning system to download a training video from a central service facility, which video is viewed on the scanning system, the Applicants submit that all pending claims are patentable over that prior art.

In view of the foregoing, the Applicants submit that this application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application and allowance of claims 1-9 and 19-28 are hereby requested.

SUBMISSION OF CLEAN CLAIMS AND NEW PARAGRAPH PURSUANT TO 37 CFR § 1.121

In compliance with 37 CFR § 1.121, Applicants hereby submit "clean" copies of the new paragraph in the specification and the claims now pending in this application as follows:

NEW PARAGRAPH:

Insert the following paragraph immediately before the heading "DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS" on page 7:

Reference characters not explicitly defined in a figure are understood to be the same as in prior figures, where applicable.

PENDING CLAIMS:

1. A method for operating a system comprising a central service facility connected to a remotely located medical diagnostic scanning system via a network, comprising the steps of: